

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

IO-10 SCCT-01 SY-05 AID-05 /090 W

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P R 221100Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8463

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

USCINCEUR

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS ATHENS 3092

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, GR, US

SUBJECT: MINISTERS AVEROFF AND RALLIS CONDEMN APRIL 21  
VIOLENCE

REF: ATHENS 3080

1. SUMMARY: DURING COURSE OF PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSION LAST NIGHT, APRIL 21, ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE APRIL 21, 1967 COUP D'ETAT, MINISTERS AVEROFF AND RALLIS CONDEMNED PEREPTRATORS OF VIOLENT INCIDENTS AGAINST EMBASSY AND ELSEWHERE IN ATHENS. (SEE SEPTTEL FOR OFFICIAL GOG STATEMENT ISSUED LATE LAST NIGHT). CU/NF CHAIRMAN MAVROS ISSUED A MORE RESERVED STATEMENT AND PASOK LEADER PAPANDEROU CLAIMED THERE HAD BEEN "PROVOCATIONS." END SUMMARY.

2. PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSION ON APRIL 21 IN REMEMBRANCE OF EIGHT ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MILITARY DICTATORSHIP SHIFTED LATE IN EVENING TO DEPLORING VIOLENT INCIDENTS WHEN FIRST INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS BECAME KNOWN.  
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MINISTER OF DEFENSE AVEROFF SAID THAT A SMALL MINORITY OF

DEMONSTRATORS WAS ATTEMPTING TO ABOLISH DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.  
"I DO NOT KNOW WHO IS INCITING THEM BUT I THINK THAT IT INVOLVES  
FOOLISH DESTRUCTORS OF DEMOCRACY AND THEY ARE PLOTTING AGAINST  
DEMOCRACY AT THIS MOMENT." MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER  
RALLIS ADDED THAT HE WAS FOLLOWING CLOSELY THE INCIDENTS AND  
THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THOSE WHO WERE CAUSING THEM  
BELONG TO POLITICAL PARTIES. "THE INCIDENTS INVOLVE 2,000  
PERSONS WHO FORM INTO GROUPS, ARE DISPERSED, AND THEN REGROUP.  
THEY HAVE INJURED POLICEMEN AND HAVE SUFFERED INJURIES  
THEMSELVES--THEY ENTERED (SIC) THE AMERICAN EMBASSY GROUND FLOOR AND  
SET FIRES. FIRES HAVE ALSO BEEN SET OUTSIDE THE PARLIAMENT."

3. LATER IN THE EVENING GEORGE MAVROS, CU/NF, ISSUED A BRIEF  
STATEMENT INDICATING HE WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE A  
JUDGMENT ABOUT THE EVENTS THAT HAD TRANSPIRED SINCE HE DID  
NOT HAVE ALL THE FACTS. MAVROS REMARKEO THAT HE ADVISED  
MINISTER OF PUBLIC ORDER THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SHOULD  
EXERCISE SELF-RESTRAINT AND GUARD FULLY AGAINST EXTREMIST  
ELEMENTS AMONG THE DEMONSTRATORS. MAVROS ADDED "THE MARCH WAS  
ORGANIZED BY THE YOUTH SECTIONS OF ALL POLITICAL PARTIES  
INCLUDING NEW DEMOCRACY AND THAT IT HAD BEEN AGREED UPON THAT  
IT WOULD HAVE STRICTLY AND ONLY AN ANTI-DICTATORIAL FLAVOR.  
WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT THE INCIDENTS AT THE U.S. EMBASSY  
BUILDING COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED IF THE POLICE HAD TAKEN  
APPROPRIATE  
MEASURES IN TIME. IT IS, HOWEVER, SAD THAT ON THE DAY OF SUCH  
AN ANNIVERSARY THE CENTER OF ATHENS WITNESSED THIS EXHIBITION."

4. ANDREAS PAPANDREOU, PASOK, ALSO RELEASED STATEMENT INDICATING  
REGRET AND INDIGNATION THAT ON DAY OF "MOURNING" FOR VICTIMS OF  
DICTATORSHIP ARMORED CARS WERE AGAIN CIRCULATING IN ATHENS USING  
TEAR GAS RECALLING POLYTECHNION INCIDENT (NOVEMBER 17, 1973).  
PAPANDREOU  
CONTINUED THAT ACCORDING TO HIS INFORMATION THERE HAD BEEN  
"PROVOCATIONS." "LET THE POLICE AUTHORITIES EXPLAIN TO US HOW  
SUCH A FEW DEMONSTRATORS MANAGED TO REACH THE BUILDING OF THE  
AMERICAN EMBASSY... AND WHY THEY HAD TO USE TEAR GAS ON  
CONSTITUTION SQUARE AND IN THE CENTER OF ATHENS." PAPANDREOU  
CONCLUDED, AS HAD MAVROS, WITH A CALL FOR A FULL OFFICIAL  
INVESTIGATION INTO THE INCIDENTS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, CIVIL DISORDERS, EMBASSIES, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Action:** n/a  
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**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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